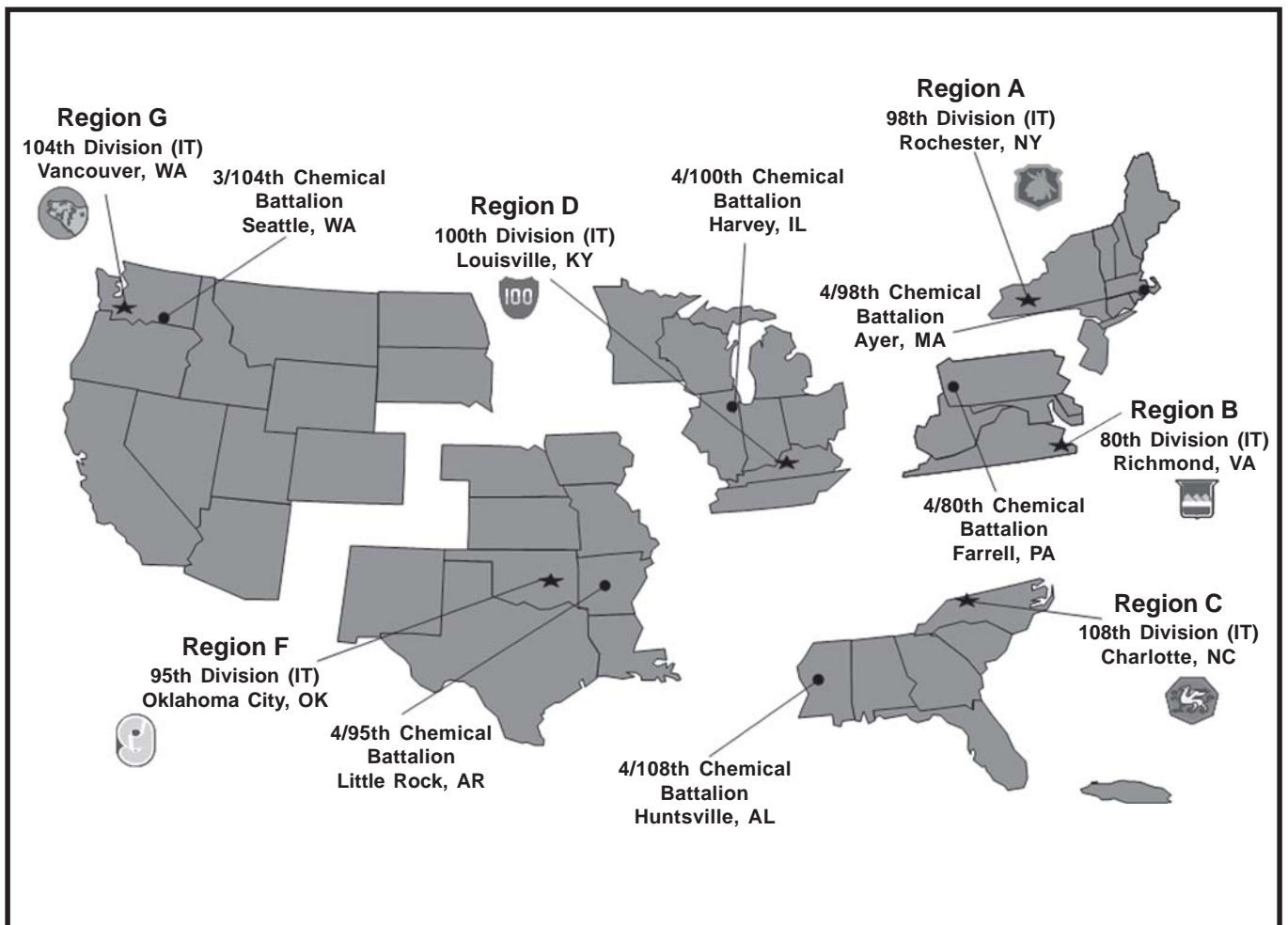


# The Total Army School System Battalion

*By Ms. Heather Gunter, Mr. Robert Davis, and Sergeant First Class Steven Sisson*

The Total Army School System (TASS) is comprised of accredited and integrated Active Army, Army National Guard, and US Army Reserve schools that provide standard training and education for the Army. The TASS battalions are arranged in regions and are functionally aligned with their training development proponent. The TASS training regiments and brigades provide command and control functions, oversight guidance, and support to individual school battalions. To promote coordination, resource management, and standards in the Corps, chemical TASS battalions are geographically divided into six regions (A, B, C, D, F, and G).



Geographic distribution of chemical TASS battalions


The reserve component (RC) chain of command is responsible for training RC Soldiers, including Title XI Soldiers. Title XI is a congressionally mandated program that provides Active Army training and education support to the RC. Congress funds the Title XI program to increase the readiness of the RC and enhance the overall effectiveness of the Army. The following courses are offered in support of inactive duty training (IDT) and active duty training (ADT):

- **74D10 Reclassification Course.** The 74D10 course is designed to produce a disciplined, motivated, and physically fit Soldier. The Soldier is trained in combat survival skills; combat techniques; chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) detection and identification; and decontamination, smoke, and reconnaissance operations. The different phases of the course are designed to be trained at multiple locations. The 74D10 contains one or more of the following phases:
  - Phase 1. Distance learning.
  - Phase 2. ADT.
  - Phase 3. IDT.
  - Phase 4. ADT.
- **74D30 Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course.** The 74D30 course uses battle-focused training concepts to equip chemical noncommissioned officers (NCOs) (career management field [CMF] 74) with the required technical and tactical skills necessary to perform the missions of squad leader, company NBC NCO, battalion NBC NCO, and computer plotter operator. The 74D30 course also prepares the NBC NCO to train Soldiers to use NBC detection and decontamination equipment and provides guidance on establishing, administering, and applying NBC defensive measures. The training phases, which may be trained at multiple locations, are major assets in this course. The following phases are offered:
  - Phase 1. Common core.
  - Phase 2. ADT.
  - Phase 3. IDT.
  - Phase 4. ADT.
- **74D40 Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course.** The 74D40 course is based on battle-focused training for CMF 74. Senior NCOs, leaders, and trainers are taught the technical and tactical skills needed to accomplish missions at the platoon, brigade, and division levels. Using small group instruction, students are taught the skills necessary to train and lead Soldiers in combat. The training phases of 74D40 may consist of one or more of the following training sessions (offered at multiple locations):
  - Phase 1. ADT.
  - Phase 2. IDT.
  - Phase 3. ADT.
- **Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Defense Course.** The NBC Defense Course is designed to teach officers and enlisted Soldiers, both Active Army and RC, the skills and knowledge necessary to perform the additional duty of NBC officer or NCO at company and detachment levels.

### Current Issues

Over the next three years, the Title XIs in the chemical TASS battalion regions will be downsized. Currently, the Title XIs act as the liaisons between regions and with the US Army Chemical School. In the future, there will only be the quality assurance element (QAE) (comprised of civilian personnel) and two Title XI slots.

The Total Army Training System (TATS) courseware currently takes twelve months or more from commandant or assistant commandant approval to implementation at the TASS battalion level. The Maneuver Support Center at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, has a Digital Training Access Center (DTAC) with its own server (operated by the Directorate

of Common Leader Training [DCLT]). The courseware is available at <http://crxxi.wood.army.mil/anonymous/login.htm>, where it can be directly accessed by TASS personnel granted DTAC administrator rights. TASS battalion personnel must have an Army Knowledge Online (AKO) user identification and password to access the site. After accessing the AKO, personnel should select *Knowledge* to gain access to current courseware. Additional options include *Communities* and *Subject Matter Expert* links. The additional links provide access to QAE personnel at the Chemical School. There is also a link to post-courseware questions. QAE personnel will address all questions and provide timely feedback. The TASS battalions can request hard copies of the courseware through the Army Training Support Center (ATSC) (see <http://www.atsc.army.mil/>). 

---

*Ms. Gunter is an instructional systems specialist for the US Army Chemical School, TASS Accreditation and Quality Assurance Element. She has a master's degree in workforce education and training development.*

*Mr. Davis is a training specialist for the US Army Chemical School, TASS Accreditation and Quality Assurance Element. He has a master's degree in training and organizational development and is a retired chemical sergeant major with 26 years of military experience.*

*Sergeant First Class Sisson is the Title XI noncommissioned officer in charge at the US Army Chemical School, TASS Accreditation and Quality Assurance Element.*

---

## Quality Assurance Office Offers Online Survey

*By Ms. Heather Gunter*



As our Nation continues the Global War on Terrorism, we must train the critical tasks required for success on the battlefield. Since the conditions will vary with each operation, our Soldiers must receive training on a wide variety of tasks to function in the common operating environment and accomplish the mission. Existing tasks may need to be revised, new tasks may need to be developed, and doctrinal changes may be warranted. To obtain ideas, concerns, and comments, the US Army Chemical School has established the Quality Assurance Feedback Program to solicit feedback from graduates and their supervisors.

Twice a year, the Quality Assurance Office compiles information gathered in an online survey. The survey questions are based on the critical tasks related to each course, and the graduate responses are vital to the training development process at the Chemical School. If you do not respond to the survey, the Chemical School will not be able to fully understand what is current and relevant in the training offered. Complete the survey! Your input can make a difference.

The preferred survey completion time is 6 to 12 months following graduation. Graduates and supervisors of graduates are encouraged to provide feedback. To access the survey, go to <http://www.wood.army.mil>, select *Quality Assurance Surveys*, and complete the survey that applies to you. Additional comments regarding tasks may be sent by e-mail to [ATZTQAOCM@wood.army.mil](mailto:ATZTQAOCM@wood.army.mil). 